

SOCIAL ACTION

News-Letter

VOL. XVIII, 4



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April, 1954

CHURCHMAN'S WASHINGTON SEMINAR

It would have been difficult to choose a more opportune time for the Inter-denominational Churchmen's Washington Seminar than the dates of February 23-26, when approximately 300 religious leaders gathered in the national capitol to discuss "Your Government and You." The McCarthy-Stevens controversy exploded in the press on the 22nd and was a topic of heated discussion in government circles throughout the week. The Bricker amendment came to a vote in the Senate and was defeated, as was the George version which it was hoped by the Bricker supporters would be adopted if the original failed. Also, the House Un-American Activities Committee's appropriation came up for a vote, with a reduction of \$25,000 in the amount asked by the committee. A factor in this decrease was the \$25,000 which the committee has left out of a previous appropriation, but when a group of us interviewed Rep. Velde, chairman, in his office immediately following the vote, he showed signs of being disturbed. Questions from our group did nothing to ease his tension.

The program was generally of a very fine caliber, though one or two speakers either failed to note the subjects on which they had been asked to speak, or else greatly underestimated the intelligence of the group. One Senator instead of discussing the issues between the parties, spent his time in an old fashioned political harangue. However, his colleague from the other side of the aisle did not mince matters in his presentation.

Among the speakers who thrilled the group was the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Dean of Washington Cathedral, who opened the seminar with an address on "Religious Motivation for Political Concern," in the course of which he struck at the men who are creating frustration, fear and uncertainty in government. He was followed by Dr. Ernest S. Griffith, Director of the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress, who outlined the process of policy formation in Washington. In all legislative matters except where party policies are involved, said Dr. Griffith, the tendency is to debate issues to the point where there is substantial agreement between both sides. James R. Wiggins, managing editor of the Washington Post, which consistently criticises Senator

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NO FUNERAL FOR POINT 4?

"Scuttled . . ." "revised," reconstituted," "clarified" — who knows what has happened to Point 4?

Five years ago the United States under the leadership of former president Truman announced a "bold new program" designed to help the underprivileged and backward peoples of the world to help themselves by providing them with technical assistance in the form of expert advice plus a minimum of financial aid (matched by the government of the aided nation).

As it was originally envisioned and

TO KNOW—TO THINK— TO SPEAK

Freedom and Democracy Sunday
(a social action special day)
July 4, 1954

- Appropriate materials free to churches who will observe this day by emphasizing our religious heritage and Christian citizenship.
- "Available—for the asking!"—so return your order card promptly upon receipt of the general mailing to churches.

administered through the State Department the program was broadly humanitarian in purpose and was related to major U. S. policy of combatting communism only to the extent that it attempted to destroy the breeding grounds of communist unrest—areas of hunger and poverty and disease. With few exceptions it was a no-strings-on program and as such enjoyed a considerable measure of confidence among other nations.

Under its auspices typhus and malaria were combatted successfully. Scythes replaced ancient sickles. Fish appeared in rice paddies to supply protein content to starch diets. Through such simple and yet far reaching programs Technical Assistance seemed to be making real headway in helping others to help themselves.

Then suddenly, almost without warning, in September 1953, the Technical Assistance Administration was removed from the State Department and placed along with E.C.A. (Marshall plan) and the Mutual Security Administration under a new agency headed by Harold Stassen. This agency known as F.O.A., Foreign Operations Administration, promptly fired over 350 of its 1700 employees including many top ranking men in the Technical Assistance Program.

Since that time we have heard very little indeed about the Point 4 and technical assistance generally.

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REPORTS ON RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY

114 "We-Did-It" sheets have been returned to the office indicating how 109 churches observed Race Relations Sunday, February 14, 1954. The reports have come in from 33 states and one province of Canada. Indiana led the list with 20 churches represented; Texas followed with 17.

Worship Bulletin Popular

"Please enter our order for 150 of the special bulletin folders for use on Race Relations Sunday, February 14. We believe the theme, 'God hath made of one blood . . .' as well as the excellent picturization and the courageous statement of position by the International Convention will make a definite contribution to our celebration of this important emphasis."

—PENNSYLVANIA

67 churches placed a special order for the worship bulletin.

INTERRACIAL EXPERIENCES ARRANGED

—83 different churches arranged for some interracial experiences for all or part of the membership.

•26 churches reported guests of another race for one or more fellowship group meetings such as CYF, CWF, CMF, DSF.

"Youth and adult sponsors from the Negro Christian Church were our special guests of our regular Chi Rho and CYF meetings, joining in the worship, programs and recreation. It was a delightful experience. They plan to have our youth as their guests soon."

—MISSOURI

•21 churches reported guest ministers of another race for the regular worship hour.

"We invited a Negro minister from Kansas City. He really aroused us to many problems that we didn't know existed."

—KANSAS

•16 churches reported having a pulpit exchange with a church of another race.

"Our pulpit exchange with the Negro Christian Church pastor was a great experience for everyone involved."

—TEXAS

•15 churches reported having a guest speaker of another race for one or more fellowship groups in the church.

"During the summer our CWF sponsored two Negro girls to a summer conference. They were invited to the CWF meeting to tell of their experiences and to be entertained during the social hour which followed."

—VIRGINIA

•12 churches reported having a choir or soloist of another race as leaders of the morning worship.

•10 churches reported having mem-

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SOCIAL ACTION NEWS-LETTER

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AN UNSTABLE BALANCE OF POWERS

Speaking before the Interdenominational Churchmen's Washington Seminar on the evening of February 23rd, Joseph C. Harsch, chief of the Washington bureau of *The Christian Science Monitor*, told the assembled church leaders that the 'cold war' has produced a sort of nervous, unstable balance of powers in our world.

For example, there is little danger now that Russia will attempt to march to the English Channel because she knows that the Western powers would immediately drop atom bombs on Russian cities. By the same rule, the West will not attack Russia because such an act would be putting the Soviet armies on the march, at whatever cost to themselves. The real purpose of the recent Berlin conference, said Harsch, was to determine whether the present stalemate can be maintained, whether a truce can be arrived at in the Indo-China war and to determine whether or not the balance of powers is about equal. The conference proved that in the latter case power is still about equal, with Russia perhaps increasing her over-all military potential. All four foreign ministers in Berlin would have been horrified by the prospect of upsetting the present power balance because any such action would immediately set off World War III. Another proof of this unstable balance of powers cited by Mr. Harsch is the fact that Albania, a Communist government, hemmed in by Yugoslavia and Greece and cut off from any direct contact with the other Balkan Communist regimes, could easily be taken at any time but remains practically safe and secure because any move against her would immediately set off conflicts between Yugoslavia, Greece and Italy over the spoils.

Another situation cited by Mr. Harsch is the fact that the riots in East Germany of June 16-17, 1953 warned Russia that she cannot count on her satellites in case of war. In such an event Russia could not only not rely upon the loyalty of satellite troops, but would have to station loyal Russian troops in all these countries to prevent uprisings.

It is situations like this that make the present armed truce possible and staves off armed conflict.

—J.A.C.

WASHINGTON ROUND-UP

Glenn D. Everett *

Prayer For the Senate—One day recently Senate Chaplain Frederick Brown Harris prayed,

"O God, forgive our feverish ways . . . In the midst of demands which drain our strength, save us from forgetting the courtesy which shines with respect and understanding for the opinions of others. However much we may differ in viewpoint, may we never lose faith in one another's sincerity and high-mindedness of purpose."

This is a prayer in which all thoughtful Americans may join. Never has there been a period when moral standards have seemed to come tumbling lower than in this past month in Washington as one of the wildest demagogues of history has gone through the Capitol's corridors, snapping like a mad dog at everyone and everything which gets in his path—or the path of his arrogant, swaggering staff.

How Can It Happen?—How can the administration be so palsied with indecision and the Senate so frightened as to have allowed this disgraceful exhibition or political blackmail and browbeating? The answer may lie in the lowered moral standards of the legislative branch of government. The story of low morals in the executive branch has been well known. As mink coat after mink coat was discovered, gifts of perfume and deep freezers, even reaching the White House, and outright graft by Internal Revenue collectors, the nation was appalled. An aroused citizenry demanded, and to a considerable extent has gotten, under President Eisenhower, a clean-up in such corruption. But the legislative branch has been overlooked. If an administrative official were found who had \$195,000 in his bank account for which no adequate explanation could be offered; if he had accepted \$10,000 from a corporation doing business before his agency; and had numerous loans for which no accounting could be made, he would be dismissed in a moment. But in the Senate he was seated. If an executive official were indicted and convicted of defrauding the government through false payroll vouchers, he would be suspended immediately from his position.

In the House, Rep. Ernest K. Bramblett (R., Cal.) sits and votes for laws you and I obey; he still sits for the same reason that Ex-Rep. Andrew J. May (D., Ky.), Walter Brehm (R., O.) and J. Parnell Thomas (R. N. J.) sat before him—because of political expediency.

Standards are established for a purpose, because violation of moral laws leads to disorganization of human society. We can see proof of this in Congress, the place where the next clean-up in Washington is needed.

Liberal Senators in Trouble—one of the most serious aspects of the present situation is that some of the ablest and most conscientious legislators are facing election trouble. The strange fate

of Sen. Robert C. Hendrickson (R., N.J.) is symptomatic of the trend. Here was one of the ablest younger members of the Senate, a strong supporter of President Eisenhower, who after the Republican victory should have been established as a powerful man in the Senate. Instead, he has been forced to retire by the unanimous opposition of the political leaders of his state. One of the big moving factors behind the scenes was the liquor lobby, angered by disclosures of alcohol's corruption of teen-agers made by his Juvenile Delinquency Committee. In quitting, Senator Hendrickson said he always took the position that political speeches back home were secondary to the job in the capital and that,

"Sooner or later the people are going to have to decide for their political leaders which course of action they want their elected representatives to follow."

In Maine the campaign Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (R.) faces is best illustrated by this statement by her opponent, Robert Jones, "The people are tired of coddling Communists." That was a reference to her "statement of conscience." In Alabama Sen. John J. Sparkman (D) is opposed by Rep. Laurie C. Battle (D) who is hoping the Supreme Court hands down an unpopular ruling on school segregation.

Back Seat for Ike's Friends — The plight of Senators like Saltonstall, Duff, Ives, Carlson, and others who backed Eisenhower and now have a back seat in the Senate while Jenner, Bricker, Bridges, McCarthy, and Dirksen hold the center of the stage shows what has really happened to Ike's "crusade." Unless the President soon recovers the flashing brilliance he displayed after his Chicago nomination and asserts strong moral leadership, he may find his place in history becoming different than that which he hoped. Temporizing and compromising has never been the mark of a great man.

Farm Problem — The farm problem is still causing concern. The Department of Agriculture "family food basket" indexes "why" —

Food for a typical family of four cost \$1,002 last year, 3% (or \$26) less than in 1952. The cost of marketing this food—the middleman's margin — increased, however, from \$546 to \$549 and the entire reduction, plus the increased margin for marketing, came out of the farmer's share. He now gets only 45 cents out of the consumer's food dollar. Furthermore, he had to take all that reduction out of his net profits because his costs of production did not go down any. Thus, his profit margin, only 36 cents out of each dollar he received, was the lowest since 1932. His net income was down 25% in some areas, while in February, consumers paid the second highest price for food in history.

*Mr. Everett is a Washington correspondent who writes for many religious services.

ON SOCIAL FRONTIERS

Bunche Back to the Middle-East. It was good news to all believers in fair play and justice that Dr. Ralph J. Bunche has been selected by the United Nations to seek a settlement of the troubles that beset relationships between the Arab states and Israel in Palestine. Recently these troubles have threatened to blow up into armed conflict and intervention on behalf of peace by the United Nations was imperative if bloodshed was to be prevented. Dr. Bunche's notable service in this area when he took over after the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte, whose assistant he was, gives ground for hope that his spirit of reconciliation will again bear fruit.

* * * *

The Churches' Work of Mercy Goes On. Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield, executive director of Church World Service, reported to the General Board of the National Council of Churches on January 19 that clothing contributions amount to 51.5% of the total of contributed goods for overseas relief; food, 24%; cash for relief 20.5%; and overhead expenses 4% for administration and promotion. Most of the food for relief is provided by CROP. Dr. Wayland Zwayer, associate director, told the General Board that 1953 shipments to 31 countries overseas totaled over 23,500,000 pounds, valued at \$9,600,000.

* * * *

Honors for a Christian Statesman. Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, for 30 years associated with the Federal Council of Churches, first as associate general secretary, and later as general secretary until the formation of the National Council of Churches in December, 1950, has retired from that position. On March 16, he was the honor guest at a dinner at Riverside Church, New York City in recognition of his long years of service to the cause of cooperative Christianity. It happens that the career of Dr. Cavert in cooperative work parallels that of the writer of this column, since both began their work in this field in 1920. Dr. Roy G. Ross has already entered upon his duties as successor to Dr. Cavert.

* * * *

You Didn't Read About It in the Newspapers. Some weeks ago the Norwalk (Conn.) Post of the VFW announced as a feature of its membership drive that it would turn in to the FBI the names of local residents suspected of Communist sympathies. The announcement was opposed by Americans for Democratic Action, whose secretary with two other persons signed an advertisement in the local newspaper. The VFW was defended by the founder of the Minute Women of America. The resultant uproar caused the VFW to beat a retreat. As for the secret committee, says Worldover Press, it just never existed. —J.A.C.

OIL FOR Which SCHOOLS?

On January 19, 1954, according to Dr. Glenn Archer of P.O.A.U. "Senator Lister Hill of Alabama reintroduced his amendment for federal aid to education out of revenues to be derived from the oil resources of the Outer Continental Shelf."

Regardless of what one's attitude on oil-for-schools legislation may be, it seems certain that Protestants will want to insist that the word "public" which is now missing in the amendment be inserted as a qualification of "schools." As the amendment now stands it is an invitation to parochial schools to seek further to enrich their private programs at public expense. Write your senator or Senator Lister Hill.

B. H.

CHURCHMEN—Cont. from Page 1

McCarthy, warned the group that our freedoms were forged in a time of danger and were meant to hold in times of tumult both at home and abroad.

On Wednesday the group divided into 10 workshop groups for sessions with various bureaus of government. This writer served as chairman of the group which visited the Department of the Interior to hear Secretary McKay and Indian Commissioner Emmons on American Indian Affairs. In the afternoon the entire group met in the auditorium of the State Department to hear discussions on "Leadership and Ethics in the United Nations," "Problems Facing the U. S. in Southeast Asia," "Problems Facing the U. S. in the Middle East." At night the speaker at the dinner meeting was Joseph C. Harsh, head of the Washington Bureau of *The Christian Science Monitor*. Mr. Harsh held his audience spellbound for an hour and forty minutes. Reference to some of his statements is made in another column of this issue.

On Thursday the forenoon was spent in visiting various Representatives, Senators, and Committees on "The Hill" where seminar members might question their lawmakers. In the afternoon Rep. Kenneth B. Keating (R., N. Y.) and Mr. Edwin J. Lukas discussed "The Maintenance of American Freedom." Mr. Lukas, who is attorney for the American Jewish Committee, so deeply impressed his audience that there was unanimous demand that the text of his address be made available.

Friday morning was devoted to denominational sessions for review and evaluation. The seminar closed at a noon luncheon addressed by two Senators.

The Disciple of Christ delegation met for dinner at the social center of the National City Christian Church, where they were addressed by Senator

SERVING MIGRATORY PEOPLES

Already agricultural migrants have started their trek through the large crop-producing areas of the U. S. By the last of May a large portion of these people will have converged in the Mid-western states, in California and along the Eastern Seaboard.

The religious ministry to migrants planned by the division of home missions of the National Council offers an opportunity for Christian young people to give a summer of service to a worth while cause. The Disciples of Christ through the Department of Social Welfare recommends qualified young people to this program. Applications are now being received by the department and assignments will be made later in the spring.

For further information write: Department of Social Welfare U.C.M.S., 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

—R. E. M.

HAVE YOU READ—

♦ The February issue of *Social Action* the monthly publication of the Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches, (single copy 25c; 289 Fourth Ave, New York 10, New York) is an exceptionally fine restatement of the "why" and "how" of social action in the local congregation by Herman Reissig.

♦ Look magazine for March 9, carries an article by Robert M. Hutchins, "Are Our Teachers Afraid To Teach."

♦ *The Progressive* (408 West Gorham, Madison 8, Wisconsin) for March 1954 carries a brief sketch of Kirby Page by Milton Mayer under the title: "Glorious Iusticius Domini."

L. H. D.

MINISTERS, LAYMEN, LAYWOMEN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS!

JUNE 21-25, 1954

Mid-West Conference On The Problems of Alcohol

At Christian College, Columbia Missouri

J. William Fulbright. The following Disciples were in attendance:

Florida: Mrs. L. O. Turner, Holly Hill. *California:* Merle Edison Fish, North Hollywood; Wilder V. Immel, Lakeport. *Colorado:* Gerald Berneking, Colorado Springs. *Indiana (Indianapolis):* James A. Crain, Robert Hall, Richard Phillips, Charles R. Stickler, Dee Walburn, A. C. Watters. *Kansas:* Mrs. G. D. Reed, Topeka. *Kentucky:* Jack M. Ervin, Lawrenceburg; Ross M. Willis, Jeffersonton. *Missouri:* Arthur Landbolt, Moberly. *New Jersey:* Samuel F. Freeman, East Orange. *North Carolina:* C. H. Hamlin, Wilson. *Ohio:* Philip L. Gould, Wadsworth; Lewis J. Joachim, Clyde; Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Brown and Lawrence Maines, Cleveland. *Texas:* Mrs. H. V. Shank, Fort Worth; Phil M. Runner, Brownwood. *Virginia:* Clarence M. Brown, Richmond; Griffith A. Hamlin, Hampton; Donald E. Reese, Vienna; Frank G. Sayers, Petersburg. *West Virginia:* Lavaughn Queen, Bethany. —J.A.C.

NEBRASKA PLANS INSTITUTE FOR FALL

The Church and World Relations is the subject for the Institute which the Social Action Committee of the Nebraska Christian Fellowship has scheduled for November 14-16, 1954. Authorization was given at the annual planning conference held in January. Tentative plans call for night sessions to be held in Lincoln and day sessions at Weeping Water.

Mrs. West and her committee are hoping that the churches will be broadly represented by ministers, official board members, Sunday School teachers and leaders, social action chairmen, CWF, CMF and CYF service committees, as well as other persons interested in finding ways in which the Christian may work for a better world through participation in their church and community.

Capable speakers and discussion leaders locally will help to direct the thinking of groups under such titles as "The UN Through the Eyes of Other Countries," "The Church and the UN," "Economics and the World Scene," "Our Community — A Little UN," "God's Twin Laws," etc.

The Institute is sponsored jointly by the Nebraska Social Action Committee and the Department of Social Welfare of The United Christian Missionary Society. Members of the committee include Mrs. George West, chairman, Fenner E. King, W. H. Holverson and Carroll H. Lemon.

R. E. M.

REPORTS RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY—Cont. from Page 1

bers bring guests of other races to share in worship and fellowship.

"Our members invited guests of other races, Negroes, Chinese, Mexicans and families from other countries. The children joined our children in their respective classes. We had 80 in attendance compared with 42 the Sunday before. We felt it was a very worthwhile day in the life of our church." —INDIANA

•7 churches arranged for some of their members to visit a church of another race.

"We arranged for an exchange of members. Twenty-four Negroes attended our service and a like number attended the Negro church. Our exchange of members was the best experience we have had." —NEVADA

•3 churches arranged for an elder-deacon exchange with a church of different race background.

•17 churches reported participating in community interracial services.

Worship and Study Mark the Observance

—90 different churches reported that the minister preached on a theme of Christian Brotherhood. Most popular title of those reported: "For the Healing of Nations".

•29 churches had the Race Relations Sunday Message of the National Coun-

NO FUNERAL FOR POINT 4?—Cont. from Page 1

What, then, has happened to Point 4?

Both Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Mr. Stassen have gone on record as feeling that the work performed by the Technical Assistance Administration should be taken over by private educational, religious and business groups.

Some, of course, will raise the question, "But should not private agencies assume this responsibility?" The answer is that they should to the extent that they are able—and willing. This is the same as saying that Point 4, on any such basis as we were accustomed to think of it in the past is rapidly dying. Private agencies just do not have 118 million dollars a year* to put into this sort of thing over and above their commitments.

*the amount Congress voted in August, 1953 for our technical assistance program.

One further symptom of Point 4's fatal illness needs to be mentioned, namely the fact that under F.O.A. all technical assistance programs are tied to mutual assistance programs. To put it differently they are to become part of the price that unwilling nations are to receive for a grudging acquiescence in our round the world military program. No military cooperation; no technical assistance. This seems to be the story. Under such circumstances of course the spirit of technical assistance is lost completely and the zombie pro-

gram remaining under F.O.A. indeed belongs to the living dead. Why then, no funeral for Point 4? The answer seems to be that the popularity of the Point 4 program with church and humanitarian and liberal groups generally was such that to kill it outright would have met considerable resistance. It is easier to bury it quietly in F.O.A. and let it die gradually by starvation or suffocation.

Why no funeral for Point 4? Look for a moment at the Resolution on Technical Assistance growing out of the Cleveland study conference* of the churches and world order last November.

Resolution: Technical Assistance

"Recognizing the critical importance of increasing the social, economic and moral strength of the less developed areas through greater use of technical cooperation and related economic assistance and development programs, we urge:

a. That these programs be recognized as of prime and long-term importance in United States foreign policy.

b. That the United States provide sustained and increasing financial support for the United Nations expanded program of technical assistance.

c. That financial support of the United States technical co-operation program be substantially increased.

d. That separate United States programs be conducted in such a way as to strengthen the United Nations programs of technical assistance.

*This conference report, "Christian Faith and Responsibility," and a Study Guide, "We are Responsible," are each available @ 30c.—Sales Literature, UCMS.

e. That United States technical cooperation be directed to the service of broad human need and be free from subordination to United States military and strategic requirements.

f. That both public and private agencies make every effort to select representatives who are not only technically competent but also possess with humility high moral and spiritual qualities as well as a devotion to the welfare of the people of the host country and a sympathetic understanding of their culture and traditions."

Point 4 is too popular for open assassination and too effective to expect a fair trial, conviction and death sentence at the hands of the American people. Therefore, let us bury it quietly in F.O.A. and let it die a natural death. No funeral for Point 4!

B.H.

gram: A church looks at our schools". Panel members and discussion leaders were, The Superintendent of County Schools, the Negro School Principal, and a local member of the School Board." —MARYLAND

♦"We have a Chinese-American on our staff, and we have a man and wife, Negroes, who hold membership." —CALIFORNIA

♦"We feel our church as a whole is overcoming race prejudice among our own members." —ILLINOIS —L.H.D.

cil read or distributed to the congregation.

•13 churches reported using the National Council specially prepared worship service as printed or in part.

•39 youth groups had one or more programs on the general theme of bettering race relations.

•26 CWF groups reported one or more special programs to mark Brotherhood month.

"Our church family responded well to the particular theme of Race Relations Sunday—we are encouraged for added emphasis in succeeding years." —VIRGINIA

ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS

♦"Minister from colored Christian Church came with his choir and congregation about 30 miles for the service of the day." —OKLAHOMA

♦"We presented "Madonnas of the World" (young people in charge of program). We had a Negro guest, representing a Madonna, who ate at the Fellowship dinner. No repercussions!" —FLORIDA

♦"We invited a group of about 20 students from the Negro college here to come to our program and our students brought them. We had a banquet together, a joint worship service, and program." —ALABAMA

♦"In addition to the pulpit exchange in the morning we had a special evening pro-